

**UNCLASSIFIED
AGR 08/28/01
AGR:JGRESSEL
AGR:RKAO
NONE
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**AIT TAIPEI
USDA FAS WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO**

**FAS FOR ITP/AAD/DAWSON,CMP/HTP/TARRANT,COTS/BLUM
FAS PASS APHIS/PPQ/ALAN GREEN AND FRED THOMAS**

TOKYO FOR APHIS AREA DIRECTOR MACKLEY

**E.O. 12958:N/A
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, TW
SUBJECT: NEW TAIWAN PLANT QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS
FOR BULB MITE**

1. Summary. On July 18, 2001, the Taiwan authorities at the Council of Agriculture (COA) promulgated a new version of Taiwan's plant quarantine requirements. The new version, which is to supercede the old version published in March 2001, is to be in effect beginning September 16, 2001. Unfortunately, this version was transmitted to AIT at the same time as the July 2001 English Language version of Taiwan's plant quarantine requirements and we made the mistake of assuming the contents was the same. Taiwan authorities inform us that the only change that would affect the U.S. concerns bulb mite in California and Texas. However, this change not only requires an Additional Declaration, but also affects transshipment of host material through these states. Host materials listed include soybean, potato, carrot, pepper, onion, ginseng, eggplant and rye. End Summary.

2. Actions Requested: FAS please pass this information to appropriate U.S. industry groups. APHIS please change the Export Excerpt for host materials produced in or transshipped through the State of California or Texas to comply with the new requirements. If APHIS and industry find this requirement unreasonable or not science-based, please provide talking points for discussion with Taiwan authorities as soon as possible. End Actions Requested

3. On July 18, 2001, the Taiwan authorities at the Council of Agriculture (COA) promulgated a new version of Taiwan's plant quarantine

requirements. Only a Chinese language version is available. No comment period is provided. Unfortunately, the new requirements came out at the same time as the July 2001 English language plant quarantine requirements and AIT did not realize they differed. According to contacts with the COA's Bureau of Animal & Plant Health Inspection & Quarantine (BAPHIQ), the only change that would affect U.S. plant exports to Taiwan is a new Additional Declaration (AD) requirement for Bulb Mite (*Rhizoglyphus echinopus* Fumouze and Robin). The new requirements are to be in effect 60 days after announcement. The phytosanitary certificates for any host materials, which are issued on or after September 16, 2001, must carry the new AD.

4. According to the new requirements, imports of the entire or any part of living plants of host materials imported from the State of California or Texas in the U.S. requires an AD on the phytosanitary certificate indicating that "The products have been thoroughly inspected and found free from *Rhizoglyphus echinopus*." Otherwise, the plants or plant parts require appropriate quarantine treatments prior to importation.

5. Host materials, totaling 26 crops, for this pest are as follows:

Garlic (*Allium sativum* L.); Onion (*Allium cepa* L.); (*Allium nutans*); Burdock (*Arctium lappa* L.); Cabbage (*Brassica oleracea* var. *capitata* L.); Boxwood (*Buxus microphylla* S. et Z. var. *intermedia* (Kanehira) Li.); Pepper (*Capsicum annuum*); (*Curcuma longa* L.); Carrot (*Daucus carota* L. var. *sativa* DC.); Amazon lily (*Eucharis grandiflora* Planch. et Linden); Freesia (*Freesia x hybrida* Hort.); Gentian (*Gentiana scabra* Bunge var. *buergeri* Maxim); Gladiolus (*Gladiolus x hortulanus* L.H. Bailey); Soybean (*Glycine max* Merrill.); Hyacinth (*Hyacinthus orientalis* L.); Narcissus (*Narcissus tazetta* L.); Ginseng (*Panax* sp.); Peony (*Paeonia suffruticosa* Andr.); Radish (*Raphanus sativus* L.); Rye (*Secale cereale* L.); Eggplant (*Solanum melongena* L.); Potato (*Solanum tuberosum*); Tulip (*Tulipa gesnerana* L.); Broad bean (*Vicia faba* L.); Vervain (*Verbena officinalis*) and Abalone mushroom (*Pleurotus sajor-caju* and *P. ostreatus*).

6. Since Taiwan has designated the States of California and Texas as quarantined districts for this pest, any plant shipments transshipped through these two states have to comply with Taiwan's transshipment requirements, i.e. be closely packed or transported in a sealed container. Please refer to Article 2.2.1 of "The Quarantine Requirements for Transshipments of Plant or Plant Products through Countries or Districts Where The Quarantine Pests Are Known to Occur" in the English version of Taiwan's Quarantine Requirements for The Importation of Plants or Plant Products into The Republic of China dated July 2001.